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CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A method for indicating, in a graphical user
2   interface, a directory location of currently visible
3   elements while scrolling through a tree structure,
4   comprising:
5   displaying data using a tree structure;
6   responsive to a user input to scroll through the
7   data in the tree structure, determining whether a current
8   ancestor hierarchy of an item is displayed in a
9   designated section of the tree structure; and
10   displaying the current ancestor hierarchy for the
11   item in the tree structure in response to determining
12   whether the current ancestor hierarchy of an item is
13   displayed in a designated section.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the display of the
2   current ancestor hierarchy is updated as a new item is
3   displayed in the designated section of the tree
4   structure.

1   3.   The method of claim 1, wherein scrolling through the
2   data in the tree structure includes one of dragging a
3   slider in a scroll bar, selecting an up/down button on a
4   keyboard, selecting a page up/page down button on the
5   keyboard, and clicking an up/down arrow on the scroll
6   bar.

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1   4.   The method of claim 1, wherein the current ancestor
2   hierarchy display is presented by replacing an existing
3   area of the graphical user interface.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the current ancestor
2   hierarchy display is presented by adding a dedicated area
3   of the graphical user interface.

1   6.   The method of claim 1, wherein the current ancestor
2   hierarchy display is presented in a manner consistent
3   with the tree structure.

1   7.   The method of claim 1, wherein the designated
2   section of the tree structure includes one of a topmost
3   and bottommost item displayed in the tree structure.

1   8.   The method of claim 1, wherein the current ancestor
2   hierarchy display is presented in one location of a
3   graphical user interface.

1   9.   The method of claim 1, wherein the current ancestor
2   hierarchy display is presented in multiple locations of a
3   graphical user interface.

1   10.   The method of claim 1, wherein items displayed in
2   the tree structure are located in different parent
3   directories.

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1   11.   The method of claim 10, wherein the current ancestor
2   hierarchy display displays the current ancestor
3   hierarchies for multiple items in the tree structure.

1   12.   A data processing system for indicating, in a
2   graphical user interface, a directory location of
3   currently visible elements while scrolling through a tree
4   structure, comprising:
5   first displaying means for displaying data using a
6   tree structure;
7   responsive to a user input to scroll through the
8   data in the tree structure, determining means for
9   determining whether a current ancestor hierarchy of an
10   item is displayed in a designated section of the tree
11   structure; and
12   second displaying means for displaying the current
13   ancestor hierarchy for the item in the tree structure in
14   response to determining whether the current ancestor
15   hierarchy of an item is displayed in a designated
16   section.

1   13.   The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the
2   display of the current ancestor hierarchy is updated as a
3   new item is displayed in the designated section of the
4   tree structure.

1   14.   The data processing system of claim 12, wherein
2   scrolling through the data in the tree structure includes
3   one of dragging a slider in a scroll bar, selecting an

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4   up/down button on a keyboard, selecting a page up/page

5   down button on the keyboard, and clicking an up/down

6   arrow on the scroll bar.

1   15.   The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the

2   current ancestor hierarchy display is presented by

3   replacing an existing area of the graphical user

4   interface.

1   16.   The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the

2   current ancestor hierarchy display is presented by adding

3   a dedicated area of the graphical user interface.

1   17.   The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the

2   current ancestor hierarchy display is presented in a

3   manner consistent with the tree structure.

1   18.   The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the

2   designated section of the tree structure includes one of

3   a topmost and bottommost item displayed in the tree

4   structure.

1   19.   The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the

2   current ancestor hierarchy display is presented in one

3   location of a graphical user interface.

1   20.   The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the

2   current ancestor hierarchy display is presented in

3   multiple locations of a graphical user interface.

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1   21.   The data processing system of claim 12, wherein

2   items displayed in the tree structure are located in

3   different parent directories.

1   22.   The method of claim 21, wherein the current ancestor

2   hierarchy display displays the current ancestor

3   hierarchies for multiple items in the tree structure.

1   23.   A computer program product in a computer readable

2   medium for indicating, in a graphical user interface, a

3   directory location of currently visible elements while

4   scrolling through a tree structure, comprising:

5   first instructions for displaying data using a tree

6   structure;

7   second instructions for determining whether a

8   current ancestor hierarchy of an item is displayed in a

9   designated section of the tree structure responsive to a

10   user input to scroll through the data in the tree

11   structure; and

12   third instructions for displaying the current

13   ancestor hierarchy for the item in the tree structure in

14   response to determining whether the current ancestor

15   hierarchy of an item is displayed in a designated

16   section.

1   24.   The computer program product of claim 23, wherein

2   the display of the current ancestor hierarchy is updated

3   as a new item is displayed in the designated section of

4   the tree structure.

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1   25.   The computer program product of claim 23, wherein
2   scrolling through the data in the tree structure includes
3   one of dragging a slider in a scroll bar, selecting an
4   up/down button on a keyboard, selecting a page up/page
5   down button on the keyboard, and clicking an up/down
6   arrow on the scroll bar.

1   26.   The computer program product of claim 23, wherein
2   the current ancestor hierarchy display is presented by
3   replacing an existing area of the graphical user
4   interface.

1   27.   The computer program product of claim 23, wherein
2   the current ancestor hierarchy display is presented by
3   adding a dedicated area of the graphical user interface.

1   28.   The computer program product of claim 23, wherein
2   the current ancestor hierarchy display is presented in a
3   manner consistent with the tree structure.

1   29.   The computer program product of claim 23, wherein
2   the designated section of the tree structure includes one
3   of a topmost and bottommost item displayed in the tree
4   structure.

1   30.   The computer program product of claim 23, wherein
2   the current ancestor hierarchy display is presented in
3   one location of a graphical user interface.

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1   31.   The computer program product of claim 23, wherein
2   the current ancestor hierarchy display is presented in
3   multiple locations of a graphical user interface.

1   32.   The computer program product of claim 23, wherein
2   items displayed in the tree structure are located in
3   different parent directories.

1   33.   The computer program product of claim 32, wherein
2   the current ancestor hierarchy display displays the
3   current ancestor hierarchies for multiple items in the
4   tree structure.